

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

February 18, 2014

**LA-RICS PROJECT**

The City of Los Angeles (City) has been leasing approximately 6,000 square feet of land at Verdugo Peak, in the City of Glendale for telecommunication facilities since September 1961, on a year-to-year term.

The City improved the site with its own communication shelter and a 75-foot communication tower, which provides critical coverage for a communication system utilized by the City's emergency first responders. The existing communications infrastructure located at Verdugo Peak is overloaded and aging, and cannot handle additional equipment required to fully deploy the future needs of a new multi-jurisdictional wireless voice and data communication, known as the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS). LA-RICS is a multi-jurisdictional wireless voice and data communications system designed to support all first responders in the Los Angeles region. The system will provide seamless radio and data communications to 85 partner jurisdictions, including the County of Los Angeles, once it is built. It has been determined that Verdugo Peak, as a critical site, should be improved at the present time, while LA-RICS is being designed, and while grant funding is available.

Therefore, the construction of a new 180-foot tower communication is required to facilitate the new LA-RICS system, and its associated radio and backhaul equipment.

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**MOTION**

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RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

The City has requested to lease approximately 2,500 square feet of additional vacant surplus County property to accommodate this need.

The City will fund the construction of the new 180-foot communications tower through two funding sources; the Fiscal Year 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) will fund a portion of the project with a budget of \$1.2 million, and the Fiscal Year 2010 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant will fund the remaining portion with a budget of \$1.0 million. This project is extremely time sensitive because the ARRA JAG funding expires on February 28, 2014. This is a statutory deadline that cannot be extended.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD**, as authorized by Government Code Section 26227:

1. Find that the proposed lease of land to the City for the purpose of constructing telecommunication facilities for the future LA-RICS project will serve a public purpose, which will benefit the County and its residents;

2. Find that the County-owned portion of land consisting of approximately 2,500 square feet of land is not needed for County purposes during the time of the proposed use, and make the land available for the proposed use as authorized by Government Code 26227;

3. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has independently considered and reached its own conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the proposed City project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the City on July 31, 2012, as lead agency; determined that the documents adequately address the environmental impacts for the proposed project; find that the Board has complied with the requirements of CEQA with respect to the process for a responsible agency; and adopt by reference the City's Mitigated Negative Declaration.

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4. Instruct and authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, to negotiate and execute a lease amendment with the City of Los Angeles containing the following provisions: (i) expand the existing Lease Premises from 6,000 square feet to approximately 8,445 square feet, without adjusting the current annual rent; (ii) modify the existing term of the lease from year-to-year to a three-year term, with two additional one-year options to renew; and (iii) allow the City to co-locate, under a separate contract with LA-RICS Authority in order to establish a portion of a regional interoperable public safety communication network.

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MDA:apb

*s/2014motions/laricksproject*